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Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE CHANGES BEING MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Please ADD new claims 31-37 in accordance with the following:

31. (NEW) A method of manufacturing a gas discharge panel having a pair of substrates sealed together with a sealant and defining a discharge space therebetween, comprising:

forming the sealant along a periphery of at least one of the substrates, and stacking said substrates, one upon the other;

lowering a pressure in the discharge space between the pair of substrates, relatively to a pressure on exterior of the pair of substrates, by exhausting the discharge space, while heating and thereby melting the sealant; and

sealing the pair of substrates.

32. (NEW) A method of manufacturing a gas discharge panel as recited in claim 31, further comprising:

filling a discharge gas into the discharge space.

33. (NEW) A method of manufacturing a gas discharge panel as recited in claim 32, further comprising:

removing an impurity in the discharge space prior to filling the discharge gas thereinto.

34. (NEW) A method of manufacturing a gas discharge panel as recited in claim 31, further comprising, prior to forming the sealant, providing a barrier wall on at least one of the pair of substrates so as to prevent an inward invasion of the melted sealant.

35. (NEW) A method of manufacturing a gas discharge panel as recited in claim 31, further comprising pinching peripheral portions of said stacked substrates together.

36. (NEW) A method of manufacturing a gas discharge panel as recited in claim 35, further comprising using temporary fixing clips to pinch peripheral portions of said stacked substrates together.

37. (NEW) A method of manufacturing a gas discharge panel as recited in claim 31, wherein the discharge space communicates through a through hole with an exterior of the gas discharge panel, further comprising exhausting the discharge space via a conduction pipe connected to the through hole.